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DIST 24 JANUARY 1968

COUNTRY SOUTH VIETNAM

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SUBJECT SUMMARY OF VIET CONG ACTIVITIES IN PLEIKU PROVINCE DURING
DECEMBER 1967

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SOURCE

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SUMMARY. DURING DECEMBER VIET CONG /VC/ ACTIVITIES IN PLEIKU
PROVINCE WERE PRIMARILY MILITARY-ORIENTED.

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BATTALION-SIZE UNITS WERE MANEUVERING FOR POSITIONS FROM
WHICH TO ATTACK U.S. AND GOVERNMENT OF VIETNAM /GVN/ INSTALLATIONS,
APPARENTLY AS PART OF THE WINTER/SPRING CAMPAIGN IN THE HIGHLANDS.

THE VC CONTINUED TO DIRECT PROPAGANDA AND THREATS AT THE INHABITANTS
OF THE GVN'S EDAP ENANG RESETTLEMENT CENTER.

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VC EFFORTS TO RECRUIT ADDITIONAL GUERRILLAS AND TO COLLECT RICE AND FOOD FROM VILLAGERS. END SUMMARY.

1. PLEIKU IS ONE OF THE HIGHLAND PROVINCES WHICH THE VIET CONG /VC/ CLAIM IS TO BE LIBERATED DURING THE WINTER /SPRING CAMPAIGN. DURING DECEMBER VC ACTIVITIES IN THE PROVINCE WERE PRIMARILY MILITARY-ORIENTED WITH PLATOON- AND COMPANY-SIZED UNITS IN CONTACT WITH GOVERNMENT OF VIETNAM /GVN/ AND ALLIED FORCES. ON 27 DECEMBER THE VC OVERRAN LE CHI OUTPOST IN LE TRUNG DISTRICT, EAST OF PLEIKU CITY. TRAFFIC ALONG THE MAJOR HIGHWAYS IN THE PROVINCE WAS CONTINUALLY HARASSED, WITH SEVERAL MINING INCIDENTS REPORTED ALONG HIGHWAY 19, AS PART OF THE VC CAMPAIGN TO DISRUPT LINES OF COMMUNICATION. INFORMANTS OF

[REDACTED] BATTALION-SIZE UNITS NEAR

3.3(h)(2) PLEIKU CITY WERE MANEUVERING FOR POSITIONS FROM WHICH TO LAUNCH ATTACKS ON ALLIED MILITARY INSTALLATIONS IN AND AROUND THE CITY. COMPANY TO BATTALION-SIZE UNITS WERE ALSO SIGHTED IN OTHER PARTS OF THE PROVINCE, WITH INDICATIONS THAT THE VC ARE PLANNING ATTACKS SIMILAR TO THE ONE ON THE LE CHI OUTPOST.

2. VC PROPAGANDA DURING THE MONTH WAS AIMED AT INFLUENCING PEOPLE LIVING IN GVN-CONTROLLED AREAS TO RETURN TO VC AREAS. CONSIDERABLE PROPAGANDA AND THREATS OF REPRISAL WERE DIRECTED AT THE INHABITANTS

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OF THE GVN'S EDAP ENANG RESETTLEMENT CENTER. VC PROPAGANDA LECTURES WERE ACCOMPANIED BY THE USUAL RICE COLLECTIONS.

3.3(h)(2) 3. [REDACTED] U.S. SPECIAL FORCES REPORTED THAT THE GIA LAI VC PROVINCE COMMITTEE INTENDS TO RECRUIT 200 MEN AND EIGHT WOMEN FOR TWO LOCAL GUERRILLA COMPANIES. IT IS NOT YET CLEAR WHETHER THESE RECRUITS ARE NEEDED AS REPLACEMENTS FOR COMBAT LOSSES OR TO FORM NEW UNITS WHICH COULD SIGNAL AN EXPANSION OF GUERRILLA FORCES IN THE PROVINCE.

4. THE VC DO NOT APPEAR TO HAVE ANY UNUSUAL PROBLEMS IN THE PROVINCE. THEY ARE PROBABLY SHORT OF FOOD SUPPLIES BUT APPARENTLY HAVE ENOUGH TO CONDUCT MILITARY OPERATIONS. [REDACTED]

VC EMPHASIS ON FOOD 3.3(h)(2)

COLLECTIONS, AND ON VC IMPRESSMENT OF LABORERS TO TRANSPORT RICE TO STORAGE AREAS. 3.5(c)

5. [REDACTED] DISSEM-- STATE USMACV CORDS 7TH AIR FORCE USARV COMNAVFORV USAID DIR/JUSPAO [REDACTED] CINCPAC PACFLT ARPAC PACAF. 3.5(c)

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